

Message for U.S. Citizens – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

Take Caution during Holiday Celebrations in Quito

December 1, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in Quito advises U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that holiday celebrations have begun in Quito. These celebrations will go throughout the month of December and include the Quito Bull Fights, Quito Days, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. Please note that during this time, U.S. citizens should be particularly vigilant due to a seasonal surge in crime.

Additionally, the threat of street crime such as purse snatchings and pick pocketing will be high in areas where there are large crowds. U.S. citizens are strongly encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance and be aware of local scheduled events.

For U.S. citizens in Quito, be advised that the following roads around the Plaza De Los Toros are expected to be congested during the Quito Bull Fights, November 26 through December 6:

- The intersection of Av. Rio Amazonas & Juan de Ascaray to the corner of 10 de Agosto;
- Av. Rio Amazonas from Av. Gaspar de Villarroel to Rio Coca; and
- Rio Cofanes from Av. Rio Amazonas to 10 de Agosto.

The police will likely close these roads from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. prior to the start of each bull fight and from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. after each bull fight. Evening fights are planned during the weekend. Consult local media for times.

A reminder, for local emergencies, dial 101.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#).

U.S. citizens should consult the [Country Specific Information](#) for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the [Department's website](#). Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The [U.S. Embassy in Quito](#) is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro.

- The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls.
- Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200.
- Appointments for ACS are available through our [website](#).

The [U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil](#) is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde).

- The telephone number for ACS inquiries is (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the [Embassy website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).